THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

[ESTABLISHED 1840.]

"The only safe way in life's thronging field lies straight on in the path of duty."—J. R. MILLER.

No. 1, Vol. LXXI. Thursday, January 7, 1909. Price One Penny.

AN ADDRESS TO THE CHURCH BY THE FIRST PRESIDENCY.

As another year is drawing towards its close, agreeable to the custom that has prevailed for a number of years we desire once more to say a few words to the Latter-day Saints by way of our usual Christmas greetings. We shall not attempt to enter into a discussion of the doctrines of the Church, or the principles of the gospel, which have been so abundantly given to the people by the apostles and elders of the Church throughout Zion and the world. We see on every hand unmistakable evidences of the hand-dealings of the Lord with His people comprising the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and with all the people composing the great nation of which we are a part. Not only the people of Utah and adjoining states and territories, but the whole people of our country at large, have been remarkably blessed with a multitude of blessings throughout the year. Prosperity has prevailed in every part of the land, notwithstanding the financial flurry which for a time threatened serious consequences to the business of the country. The seasons have been propitious and the honest laborer has generally reaped abundant returns for his intelligent labors. The world at large has been free from the devastating effects of war, although it has not been altogether free from strife, and the smiles and approbation of the Lord have been shed abroad upon the face of the earth in a remarkable degree, and, we think, especially so in all parts of the world where effort is being made by His servants to lay the foundations of His work and spread the know-

ledge of truth and of the coming and glory of His kingdom to the children of men. The tendency of the nations to submit their disputes and differences to boards of arbitration instead of deadly conflict on the battlefield, and the peace conferences that have been held in the past with more or less success, and will be continued in the future, are indeed very gratifying signs of the permanent establishment of peace and the cessation of war. We believe this hoped for condition among the nations is sure to come, that righteousness will prevail in every land and the word of the Lord will be proclaimed without fear or hindrance among all nations, tongues and peoples.

THE LABORS OF THE ELDERS.

The elders of the Church have labored zealously and faithfully to proclaim the message of life and salvation, both of a temporal and spiritual nature, in all of their mission fields, and have done much towards the establishment of truth and brotherly love; for the spirit of peace, justice, mercy and righteousness emanates from the elders and spreads abroad upon the people among whom they labor. Their mission is one of well-doing and love for their fellow-men. They carry unto the people the gospel of Christ, which through obedience to its precepts will save and exalt them in His kingdom, that will eventually be established and have universal sway throughout the earth as the ancient prophets have foretold.

The demand for efficient laborers in the various mission fields has for a long time been far greater than we have been able to supply. However, it has been our aim to keep sufficient elders in the various nations where we have missions established to carry on the work of the Lord intelligently and successfully, that there may be no unnecessary delay in the spread of the gospel among the people, for we realize that it is to be preached in power among all nations in this dispensation. We have at present elders laboring in Europe, Asia, Africa, and many of the islands of the sea, as well as throughout the American hemisphere. Considering the great number of elders that are kept constantly in the mission fields, exceedingly few of them have proved themselves unworthy of the glorious mission to which they have been called, and a few have laid down their lives while thus laboring in the Master's cause. And while our hearts go out in sympathy to the bereaved kindred and families of those faithful elders thus called home, we cannot but be thankful in the knowledge that there is awaiting them honor and reward akin to that of the martyrs for the cause of truth in all ages of the world. We rejoice in the precious assurance given in the gospel that they and their kindred who remain faithful to the truth will come up together in the morning of the resurrection crowned with glory, immortality and everlasting life. The efficiency, capability, earnestness and devotion to duty of

those who have been called to the responsible positions of presiding over the various missions of the world have given us great joy. Not one of these has ever shrunk from any duty or failed to meet any requirement made of him in the faithful discharge of the duties of his presidency. The progress of the work of the Lord under their direction has been exceedingly gratifying and satisfactory.

TREATMENT OF THE ELDERS IN THE WORLD.

We are also happy to say upon reliable information that the elders are receiving much more respectful treatment and consideration from the better and more enlightened classes of people. Prejudice is giving way before the spread of correct knowledge of the true character of the great latter-day work through the consistent and persistent efforts of the servants of the Lord; and such opposition as is now met with is generally from the ignorant and misguided classes of men who are blinded by the bigotry and hatred awakened in their hearts by those devoted to priestcraft and political chicanery. And while a determined effort has been made on the part of some bigoted and malicious souls to injure the cause of Zion and retard the spread of the message of truth among the honest-minded people of the world, we are pleased to say that their determination to do injury has been overruled by Divine Providence and has resulted in good, and their influence to-day is comparatively impotent and their attacks are without the results that followed such attacks in days that are past.

HEADQUARTERS OF MISSIONS.

This year the Church has expended considerable means in securing and fitting up permanent headquarters in the missions and conferences of the Church abroad. Some of these are fine structures and well suited for the purposes of meetings and homes for the elders. We find that our possessing meeting halls and headquarters gives us greater respect among our outside friends and encourages our saints to make greater exertion to bring their friends to our meetings. It gives them confidence in the solidity of the work and makes it easier for them to follow the instructions given them by the elders not to be in a hurry to emigrate, but for the saints to remain and help strengthen the branches where they live and they themselves become more strongly grounded in the gospel.

USE OF THE BOOK OF MORMON IN MISSION FIELDS.

Many thousands of copies of the Book of Mormon have been published in the United States and have been widely distributed by the elders among the people. The result has been an awakening of a lively interest in the doctrines of the gospel and in the divine mission of Joseph Smith. The Book of Mormon has been placed

on sale in some of the largest and most reliable publishing and business houses in the United States, and it has been listed in their catalogues. The use of the Book of Mormon as a means of spreading the gospel has proved to be very successful. We feel to commend the elders for their efforts in this direction and pray that this work may be continued by them in the future both at home and in foreign fields with equal diligence and good results. The general use of the Book of Mormon by the elders as a means of spreading a knowledge of the gospel and in converting men to the divinity of the mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith is certain to be followed with gratifying results. The book contains a promise to all honest investigators that they shall know of its truth if they will study it with prayerful hearts. Hundreds testify to the fulfilment of this promise. This use of the Book of Mormon is merely a return to conditions that prevailed in the early days of the Church when the elders went forth with the Book of Mormon and many believed and were baptized. Some of the first and staunchest members were converted through reading the Book of Mormon. Among these might be mentioned Presidents Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball and Willard Richards, Parley P. Pratt and Orson Pratt, George A. Smith and other members of the Prophet's household, and many others that space will not permit us to mention.

The elders of the Church are the witnesses for Christ in the world that He has again established His gospel, and the world will be judged by their testimonies. The Book of Mormon is a witness of the dealings of God with the ancient inhabitants of this land, which is the land of Zion. It contains the gospel of Jesus Christ and has been translated by the gift and power of God as a means for the salvation and redemption of His children.

THE WORK IN THE STAKES OF ZION.

What we have said of the integrity and devotion to the cause by those who have been called to preside in the missions, we can say with equal force and truth of those who have been called to preside in the several stakes of Zion. They are generally laboring with power and zeal among the saints, uniting their hearts with a love unfeigned. The integrity of the saints to the cause of Zion; their fidelity to the principles of the gospel; their knowledge of the latter-day work; their fellowship for one another and for the presiding authorities of the Church, and the marked unity pervading all their assemblies, are highly commendable. Their observance of the principle of tithing which was revealed and established by our Heavenly Father to provide for the temporal needs of the Church, and their improvement in the observance of the Word of Wisdom and the principles of temperance and sobriety, mark their growth and advancement in the knowledge and love of the principles of their religion. Incidents of the recent past

have proved the willingness of the Latter-day Saints, who are in full fellowship with the Church, to forego their personal desires and yield their individual preferences on their own volition for the public good, and mark distinctively their individual growth and broadening in the scale of intelligence as well as their integrity to the best interests of the whole.

THE CHURCH SCHOOLS.

Our Church schools throughout Zion, which now number twenty-seven and have an enrollment of about ten thousand students, have continued to prosper. Some new and elegant buildings have been erected and others are in course of construction to make room for the increasing attendance. We only regret that the means necessary to meet all the requirements are not equal to the growth and demands of the schools. We feel it incumbent upon us, and a duty that is paramount to all other duties in our schools to teach the youth of Zion love for truth, virtue, honor and purity of life, veneration for the name of Deity, the Church and all sacred things, proper respect for the Priesthood, not forgetting anything essential to a thorough moral and intellectual education. We are impressed that in comparison with these principles and an abiding faith in the gospel all other things count but little in the education of the youth. Let these things be stamped upon the minds of the youth until they sink deep into their souls and become a portion of their very being. We have endeavored to establish our schools on a firm basis, and to have them equipped with the most thorough instructors and supplied with all necessary apparatus for imparting knowledge. They have been raised to a high standard of efficiency in all elementary branches and in some of them the higher branches of education are taught. We commend our Church schools to the Latter-day Saints and desire that they will continue to give them their hearty and well deserved support, that they may continue to prosper and maintain their efficiency.

THE TEMPLE WORK.

Great activity has been manifest during the year 1908 on the part of the saints in their temple work. The spirit to work for the redemption of the dead is resting upon them, and an increased interest has been shown in this work of divine love. This work is, the Prophet Joseph tells us, "essential to our salvation, as Paul says concerning the fathers, 'that they without us cannot be made perfect, neither can we without our dead be made perfect.'" The command of God is for the saints to labor with their might for the redemption of their dead, for, as the Prophet says: "It is the greatest responsibility that God has laid upon us, to seek after our dead."

Many of the saints have taken advantage of the opportunities afforded them by the Church in providing a genealogical society

where assistance can be given them in this important work. Records are being gathered and information of a genealogical nature is being accumulated for the use of the saints. The Spirit which moves the saints to work for the redemption of the dead is the planting in the hearts of the children the promises made to the fathers. This same spirit seems to be moving upon the hearts of honorable men of the earth who are spending their time and means in collecting and compiling genealogical records. In Great Britain, and portions of the United States, societies have been organized for the gathering and preservation of genealogies. Vital records and parish registers that have been inaccessible are now being sought for and published in great numbers. It is desirable to obtain as many of these as possible and have them filed away. The saints should take advantage of every opportunity to obtain the records as far as possible of their ancestors, that their redemption through the ordinances of the House of God might be obtained. We commend the saints for their diligence in this most important and essential work.

We wish the saints a pleasant Christmas and that the New Year may bring them much joy and happiness. We pray that the work of God may prosper at home and abroad, that the saints may grow in the knowledge and grace of God, and that the good and honest-hearted people everywhere may hear and understand the gospel of Jesus Christ.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHON H. LUND,
First Presidency.

TO THE RELIEF SOCIETIES IN THE EUROPEAN MISSION.

DEAR SISTERS,

A very happy and prosperous New Year to you all. We have entered the door of another year, and I think we can all look back through the old one with pleasure and satisfaction. I am sure we hope the coming year may be more prosperous and fuller of good works than the past. Numerous poor families have had cause to rejoice and bless the Relief Societies. Let us not relax our efforts in this direction, but increase in good works.

The many letters I have received from the different societies, expressing their joy and appreciation of the many benefits gained by attending their meetings are most encouraging, and show growth in grace and faith in the principles of the gospel and in the divine inspiration of the Prophet Joseph Smith in organizing them. All express their sincere desire to continue in the good work of improving themselves spiritually, and in power to work in unity and with good will towards each other.

The annual report of each Relief Society should reach me by the first of March, so that they can all be compiled into one general European report for the sisters' conference in Zion in April. I will send blanks for the secretaries to fill out and hope they will be prompt in returning them in good time. Also let me remind you to hold a meeting on March 17th, or as near that date as possible, to commemorate the anniversary of our organization, and the paying in of the fivepence requested of each member once a year for general expenses in Zion.

Let us each do as much missionary work as opportunity permits to spread the knowledge of the gospel, dispel prejudice and open doors for the elders to go in and preach and teach the honest in heart.

Keep an account of gospel conversations held with those in ignorance of it, and report them to the society. The secretary will record them, and they will form a part of the annual report.

My dear sisters, through the many blessings and mercies of the Lord bestowed upon us in the past let us be stirred up to greater diligence during this new year, and go on from grace to grace until we come to the perfect life.

May the Holy Spirit be with us every day throughout the year is the constant prayer of

Your sister in the gospel of Christ,

ROMANIA B. PENROSE.

CHRISTIAN LOVE.

"Love beareth much, much she believes,
And still she hopes the best:
Love meekly suffers many a wrong,
Though sore with hardship press'd.

Love harbors no suspicious thought,
Is patient to the bad:
Griev'd when she hears of sins and crimes,
And in the truth is glad.

Hope shall to full fruition rise,
And Faith be sight above:
These are the means, but this the end:
For saints for ever Love."

"KNOW the value of time; snatch, seize, and enjoy every moment of it. No idleness, no laziness, no procrastination; never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day.—EARL OF CHESTERFIELD.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1909.

SPECIAL TO OUR MISSIONARIES.

With the opening of the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Nine, we are glad to say that prospects are pleasing and encouraging for a happy and successful year to the elders laboring in the European mission. There has been much inquiry and some close investigation into the principles and doctrines of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which we anticipate will bring forth good results during the present year. This will depend greatly upon the wise and energetic action of the brethren in the mission field. If they slacken their efforts in behalf of the work in which they are engaged, become dilatory and do not follow up labors of the past, neglecting to reap where they have sowed, the fruits of their planting will not be harvested, so as to indicate the extent of their work. But if they press forward and continue in well doing, they will "reap if they faint not."

The conversion of people to the faith of the gospel, manifest in obedience to its ordinances, is not accomplished often merely by preaching, or by the distribution of literature, although these are mighty levers in rolling on "the stone cut out of the mountain without hands." It requires patience, perseverance and continued attention to those who have heard or read the word, that they may be led in the path of salvation and be so impressed with the truth that they will be willing to yield obedience to it, and be encouraged to withstand the opposition of the world, the contumely that is often endured for the gospel's sake, and the loss of friends and sometimes of relatives, which are frequent consequences of obedience to the revelations of the Lord.

Honest souls desirous of truth are precious in His sight, and should be sought out and looked after diligently, that they may not be swallowed up in the cares of this life and captured by the snares of the Adversary. When once the spirit of this latter-day work has impressed honest hearts, there is always a lingering inclination towards it. Those who have experienced it may sometimes seem to have turned away from it, but it only needs the presence and power of a servant of the Lord, clothed with Divine authority, to rekindle it and gently lead them into the strait and narrow way. If we neglect to do our part of this work, we will

greatly regret it in years to come, if not in the immediate present. But if we do our duty without wearying or faltering, we will be made to rejoice in the results of our labors.

The baptismal record of 1908 is a grand testimony to the work performed by the elders, aided by many of the saints. The present year should go some steps beyond that, because of our experiences and increased opportunities. The opposition stirred up against us, particularly by preachers, lecturers, and mercenary adventurers, has been the means of arousing an interest in the message of "Mormonism," which has already shown some good effects and which ought to be of greater service to the Church in time to come. We have learned one lesson from the recent flat failure of our hostile defamers which should be of permanent value to us. That is, that it is far better to ignore violent and contemptible maligners who have no regard for reason or veracity, than to contend with them or recognize them in any way. It has been difficult to convince some of our brethren that this is good policy, but we think they now agree with us that it is the better because it is the right course to pursue.

Interruptions to our services by persons who wish to engage in discussion should not be permitted, either during or at the close of our meetings. If people desire to ask questions for information, let them present their queries to the elders in person or by letter, but not in the public gatherings of the saints. Investigators can be visited at their homes or they can call on the elders at their lodges, but critical and impertinent persons should not be permitted to disturb our assemblies, any more than they would in any church or chapel in the country. Do not announce that "questions will be answered at the close of meetings," thus giving opportunity for a wrangle and bringing in a spirit of cavil and contention. We meet for Divine worship, not for debate, and the saints should be instructed to preserve due decorum and order *after* a meeting has closed, so as not to give occasion for disputes by intruders.

The record of the distribution of Church literature during the past year is creditable to those who are engaged in it, but there can be some improvement in the present year if due diligence and perseverance mark their course. The highest figures in proportion to the number of elders belonging thereto are shown in those conferences where the president and clerk lead out in the good work and are, therefore, followed by their co-laborers. In mentioning this we are not finding fault with those conference officers whose time and attention have been occupied, wisely, in visiting the different districts, instructing the elders and looking after the work generally. They have been and will be left to their own judgment as to the most beneficial manner of employing their talents. We merely mention a simple fact which may have its bearing upon the work now to be done.

The holiday time has past. Now is the time for a vigorous renewal of the work of the ministry. We hope the brethren have had recreation enough to last them for some time. A little relaxation by way of change is beneficial, if its effects are shown in that increased energy which is the healthy rebound therefrom. This we hope to see manifest throughout the present year. We have noticed that in many places supposed by some elders to have been thoroughly worked over and therefore ready to be abandoned, a new effort has brought forth splendid results. The seeds sown in times past have not been wasted. They may have been covered up out of sight, but as soon as the refreshing dews of heaven and the reviving influence of the Spirit of the Lord, carried by His faithful servants, are in operation, the fruits appear, obedience is rendered and the Lord is glorified.

One means of tract distribution which might be employed to great advantage, we think, has been somewhat neglected. That is, by the aid of the local brethren and sisters, who can reach people that would not pay attention to the elders because of the fear which has been aroused against them by designing and pretended "Christians." Such brethren and sisters should be selected for this voluntary work who are able to explain the gospel, answer pertinent questions, and bear a faithful testimony to the work of the Lord.

Each elder in the mission field is expected to apply himself to the work which he has come here to do. There is no time for anyone to waste. When not employed in preaching, tracting, visiting investigators and encouraging and instructing the saints, missionaries should make themselves thoroughly familiar with the doctrines of the Church and with the holy scriptures, ancient and modern, which substantiate and explain them. Conversation in the lodge or elsewhere should be along these lines. Frivolity, nonsense, levity and worldliness should be avoided. Sitting around in the lodge while there is duty calling, while there are millions in spiritual darkness, while there are opportunities for spreading light and truth, is to be greatly condemned. This is no time for laziness or lethargy, but for activity, devotion, labor and untiring effort.

We have the grandest mission ever undertaken among men, and it will bring the most glorious and gratifying results. A book of remembrance is kept on high, and our works and words in the good cause are carefully recorded. They who become weary in well-doing will suffer loss, but "they who turn many to righteousness will shine like the sun in the firmament and like the stars forever and ever." A kingly crown for those who are faithful in this royal priesthood is laid up for each of them who are valiant in the testimony of Jesus.

Onward, brethren, elders in Israel! Gird on the armor of righteousness, and wielding the sword of the Spirit, go forth daily to

vanquish the foes—ignorance, error, superstition, vice, vanity, lust, intemperance, and sin. Set an example worthy to be followed by all men. Keep yourselves unspotted from the world, avoid the path of temptation, associate with one another, have charity for each other, speak well to and of each other, act like gentlemen, preserve your honor and integrity, avoid running into debt, pay up what you owe, be prayerful, learn how to pray in public as well as in private, draw near to the Lord, seek for the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, cultivate a cheerful spirit, never give way to gloom or despondency, but serve God with a glad heart and a cheerful countenance and carry sunshine with you wherever you go.

The power of the Almighty will be with you and round about you, brethren, angels will be your guards and companions, you will be preserved from the evils of this world, health will be imparted to your bodies, marrow to your bones, you will run and not be weary and walk and not faint, if to these virtues that are here mentioned you add the strict observance of the Word of Wisdom and devote yourselves to the work of your calling, being in no haste to cast it aside or to return to former vocations and responsibilities. The peace and blessing of our Eternal Father and our Lord Jesus Christ and the revelations of the Holy Spirit of Truth be and abide with you all!

C. W. P.

"**Songs of Zion**" is the title of a charming book of hymns and songs, selected, arranged and published by the Northern States mission, under the direction of its worthy president, Elder German E. Ellsworth. It is especially designed for use in the mission field, where it will supply a long-felt want. The book contains two hundred and forty-six songs; it is printed on good paper and the music is clear and perfect. The songs have been so arranged that each selection can be played without turning the page. There has been a great demand for the "songster," and the success of the publication is already assured. The books will be on sale at this office in the near future.

"**The Book of Mormon.**"—We wish to inform our readers that the excellent discourse on the Book of Mormon, including a history of the witnesses, which was delivered by Elder Andrew Jenson in the Tabernacle at Salt Lake City, in September last, and which was recently published in the MILLENNIAL STAR, has been reproduced in pamphlet form at this office. It consists of twenty-four pages, is printed on good, book paper, and bound in an attractive cover. We commend this valuable publication to the elders and saints in the European Mission, in the hope that they will give it a wide circulation. It is being sold for almost cost—sixpence per dozen copies, postage extra.

Address of the First Presidency—We respectfully call the attention of the elders and saints in the European Mission to the very interesting address of the First Presidency of the Church, which appeared in the Christmas number of the *Deseret Evening News*, and which we take pleasure in reproducing in this issue of the *Millennial Star*. It will be seen that the labors of mission presidents and elders are highly appreciated by the authorities in Zion, who congratulate the brethren on the remarkable success which has attended them in their ministry. We especially direct attention to that part of the address which treats of the use of the Book of Mormon in mission fields, and hope the brethren will act upon the suggestion of the First Presidency and bring the sacred volume more prominently before the people. The importance of the work for the dead is clearly pointed out, and this will undoubtedly have the effect of inspiring the saints to search diligently for the genealogies of their ancestors, that they may be redeemed in the due time of the Lord. We would suggest that the address be read in the meetings of the saints next Sunday, so that strangers and investigators may also hear the glad tidings from the promised land.

Christmas Newspapers.—The Christmas number of the *Deseret News*, a copy of which has reached the *Millennial Star*, is one of the very finest that has ever been issued from the presses of that world-famed newspaper. It consists of ninety-six pages of reading matter, illustrated with splendid half-tones and other engravings, with an illuminated cover of four pages, making one hundred in all. To give even a brief description of the numerous articles, essays, addresses, poems, etc., would occupy this entire number of the *Millennial Star*. We, therefore, can bestow upon it only a few lines of appreciation, pronouncing it the finest Christmas paper in either hemisphere. There is nothing to be compared with it in Great Britain or upon the European Continent, and we doubt if the United States has produced anywhere its rival. The information it contains has been gathered from all parts of the world, but its chief topics are those that relate to Utah and Idaho, which are replete with items of interest and importance, not only to the inhabitants of those prosperous commonwealths, but to the general public, and particularly to persons who desire to become acquainted with the history, growth, population, industries, resourses and capabilities of two of the most flourishing states in the American Union. The mechanical and artistic work on the Christmas *News* is as usual of the very highest order. The portraits of prominent persons, pictures of public and private edifices, views of mountain and valley scenery, and sketches of remarkable places, with editorial and other writings in admirable literary style blend in making up a holiday publication, indicating the wonderful progress that has been made by the people who have turned

the wilderness into a garden and the desert into glorious dwelling places, inhabited by a people devoted to all that is good and uplifting in heaven or on earth. Everybody engaged in the production of this great and beautiful paper is entitled to unstinted praise and the plaudits of an admiring public. This splendid specimen of newspaper skill and enterprise should go forth to the uttermost parts of the world. It places Utah in the very front rank of the press, and its fame should circle the globe.

A few days ago we received at the *Millennial Star* office a copy of the Christmas number of the *Lehi Banner*, a weekly newspaper published at Lehi, Utah County, Utah. It is printed on good book paper, and its eight pages are filled with interesting articles, charming Christmas stories and attractive advertisements. On the front page appears a splendid half-tone engraving of the beauful granite monument which the citizens of Lehi erected a short time ago in honor of the first settlers. The history of the town is interestingly told by Andrew Fjelt, after which there is an account of the dedicatory services which were held on Thanksgiving Day. The paper also contains a report of an excellent address on "Mormonism," delivered by Mr. F. W. Kirkhan before professors and students at Stanford University. It is the banner number of *The Banner*.

INTERESTING EXPERIENCE OF A "MORMON" EMIGRANT.

My Dear Brethren and Sisters,

Requests of my friends have caused me to pen this letter. It is written with a sincere desire that others may be encouraged and strengthened, especially my brothers and sisters in the gospel of Christ who are yet in the old country.

Converted to the gospel in 1898, in my native county of Essex, England, I was for seven years a member of the London conference. I then spent about a year in the Liverpool branch of the Liverpool conference, leaving England to gather with the saints of God in Zion on June 22nd, 1906.

On the day of my departure from my native land, being alone, and naturally feeling somewhat sad leaving my parents, brothers and sisters, with scarcely a probability of seeing them again in this life, I requested a blessing at the hands of President Grant, who, in various ways, had shown me much kindness. He gave me a blessing; said if I would show the same determination and faithfulness in the future as in the past no obstacle or difficulties that might arise could impede my course or hinder my progress, and promised, among other things, that I should have great joy in going up to Zion, reach my destination in safety and should find many friends there who would be fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters to me.

With mingled feelings that lovely June day I stood on the deck of the good ship *Arabic* and watched the busy throng making the usual preparations for an ocean voyage, and when punctually at 5 o'clock the bell rang and we steamed out of the Liverpool docks, I could not repress the tears on realizing that after eight years of opposition in the gospel I must leave my beloved parents and brothers and sisters and go alone. But the Spirit of the Lord had made it clear and unmistakably plain to my mind that my mission in my beautiful native land was completed for the time being.

The first two days on board were spent in making pleasant acquaintances and everything bade fair for a pleasant trip. On the second night out, however, while participating in amusements on deck, my money was stolen by sailors. The matter was reported immediately to the proper authorities and efforts were made for its recovery, but they proved of no avail.

Realizing that I was now penniless, I retired to my room where I sought the Lord in humble prayer. Although I felt I should never again possess my stolen money, sweet peace came to my soul and I knew beyond a doubt that the Lord would provide and the promises of His servant be fulfilled.

All went well and I thoroughly enjoyed the remainder of the journey. When we reached Boston the president of the company inquired of me what I would do on landing, inasmuch as I, being an emigrant, would have to be in possession of at least thirty dollars. I replied, "I know not how the way will be opened, but I do know that I shall land." He said "So you shall," and to my surprise he handed me the sum of twenty-three dollars which, unknown to me, members of the company had subscribed. Sister Zina Chipman, of American Fork, kindly lent me the remainder.

Passing the doctor's examination successfully, and also answering satisfactorily all questions of the government officials, I received a card which I supposed to be my passport into the United States.

I now began to breathe freely when, to my utter astonishment and indignation, I found it bore the words "detention card." It was then my feelings were aroused by hearing complaints of the harsh treatment others had received at the hands of the commissioners. Naturally, when called, I was filled with a determination to meet them on equal ground.

I requested the elders and friends to pray for me, while I followed the steward, who ushered me into the presence of the three commissioners. Finding myself alone, I made a profound bow, not because of my awe or reverence for these men, but that I might command respect of them. At my request they laid aside their cigars and being seated, I was placed under oath. They then proceeded to question me, two alternately, the other making record in shorthand of both questions and answers, covering a period of precisely four hours.

Questions concerning President Grant, his position in Europe, family, conditions at mission headquarters, where they somehow learned I had lived, reception of "Mormonism" in Europe; why a president is appointed for each company of saints, and if he does not find passage for those in his charge; did I believe in polygamy; did I believe the President of the Church to be a prophet, that he receives revelation for the Church, and did I believe in individual revelation; why we gather to the valleys of the Rocky Mountains; why we build temples and concerning the works done therein; tithing and its uses. and why we send missionaries abroad; many questions concerning myself individually, and what my plans were for the future.

One can imagine the many questions that could be and were put to me during that lengthy interview. I have given here but a brief outline. The Lord gave me wisdom and blessed me marvelously in the handling of these questions and at dismissal all three gentleman thanked me for the information I had given. I impressed upon them the importance of that information and bore a strong testimony to the restoration of the gospel of Christ. They then asked if there was anything they could do for me. I replied, "Yes, you can deal justly and kindly with those who come after me"; and wishing them good-night, I withdrew.

So greatly had my words impressed them, that afterwards, while standing on the deck pondering over my experience, the scribe of the trio approached, and touching me on the shoulder asked did he understand me to say that I believed in individual revelation. Replying in the affirmative, he enquired how it could be obtained. I answered, "by repentance of sin and by humble prayer and obedience to the commands of God." Thanking me and making a note of this reply he shook hands and departed.

Joining my companions, I learned that on account of my prolonged examination orders had been given that no others would be examined that night and that all the company were to remain on board until after breakfast next morning.

I have considered it a privilege for me to be detained in Boston and to have had the opportunity of bearing my testimony there. Thus we see how the Lord overruled apparent evil for good.

At no time since my arrival in the land of Zion have I regretted the step I have taken, knowing full well that the promises of the Lord never fail. Indeed, I have found here those who, through all my trials, have been fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters to me, some of the noblest souls that have ever graced God's earth.

I send my best wishes for the season's greetings to all my friends in dear old England, from Ocean Park, Sunny California, where I am visiting with dear friends from Salt Lake City.

With love, I am,

Your sister in the gospel of Christ,

EVA A. HASLER.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD.

Releases and Departures.—The following missionaries sailed for home December 31st, 1908, per s.s. *Merion*: From Great Britain—William H. Brough. From Scandinavia—Simon Christensen. From Switzerland and Germany—Leonard Tanner.

Baptisms.—A baptismal service was held at the Turkish Baths, George Street, Hull (Grimsby conference), on Sunday, December 27th, 1908. Short, appropriate addresses were delivered by Elders Frederick W. Giles and Alex. H. Lowe, after which two new members were added to the church. They were baptized by Elder James L. Shepard, and were confirmed at the afternoon service.

Three members were added to the Burnley branch (Liverpool conference), on December 31st last. The ordinance of baptism was administered by Elder C. E. Summerhays.

The Norwich and Scottish conferences report the first baptisms in the year 1909. That of the latter was performed at the Townhead Baths, Glasgow, on Sunday last, the 3rd inst. About fifty saints and friends were present, and an appropriate service was held, at which President J. G. Johnston and Elder A. Z. Richards spoke. Ten converts were then baptized by Elder M. O. Ashton.

A baptism took place at Norwich on the 2nd inst., when two members were added to the Church. The ceremony was performed in the River Waveney, at Ditchingham, by Elder A. Le Roy Taylor. A meeting was afterwards held at the home of Brother Chaston, at which the converts were confirmed and addresses delivered by President J. A. Horton and Elder Taylor.

Christmas Entertainment.—A very enjoyable entertainment was held in Unity Hall, Derby, on the 28th ult. It was given under the auspices of the Derby Sunday School. About one hundred saints and friends were present, and were treated to a very fine program, and also refreshments. The children were especially delighted with the entertainment, and with the toys which were distributed to them at the close.

CONTENTS:

An Address to the Church by the First Presidency 1
To the Relief Societies in the European Mission 6
Editorial: Special to our Missionaries 8
Interesting Experience of a "Mormon" Emigrant 13
From the Mission Field 16

EDITED, PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY CHARLES W. PENROSE, 295 EDGE LANE, LIVERPOOL:

FOR SALE IN ALL THE CONFERENCES OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN GREAT BRITAIN.